GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4770
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Augmenting of Coal Reserves
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of benefits accrued after the implementation of various programmes aimed at augmenting coal reserves in the country in the last 10 years;
(b) the funds allocated, released and utilized for the implementation of various schemes by the Government during the 12th Five Year Plan;
(c) the reasons for non-utilization of funds during the said period;
(d) whether the Government has reviewed the utility of the said schemes with a view to improve them further;
(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor; and
(f) the steps being taken by the Government for the proper implementation of the schemes in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): There are two Central Sector Schemes of Ministry of Coal(MoC) i.e. Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL blocks and Promotional(Regional) Exploration aimed at augmenting coal reserves in the country .

The total estimated quantum of coal resource in the country was 253.30 billion tonnes (as on 01.04.2006), which increased to 308.80 billion tonnes (as on 01.04.2016) as per Geological Survey of India due to the efforts put in for exploration of coal.

(b): The year-wise targets and achievements of fund allocation/utilization in Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL blocks during the XII Five Year Plan are furnished below:

Fund Provision/Release/Utilization (In Crore)
BE
RE
Fund Released
By MoC/ Utilisation
2012-13 150.00 215.00 200.59
2013-14 175.00 205.00 184.50
2014-15 205.00 155.00 135.71
2015-16 168.00 168.00 151.20
2016-17 89.50 89.50 80.55
Note: There has been 100% utilisation excepting the NER component during 2012-17.

The year-wise targets and achievements of fund allocation/utilization in Promotional (Regional) Exploration in the XII plan are given in table below:

BE
RE
Fund Released/ Utilised by MoC
2012-13 76.00 27.00 19.00
2013-14 50.00 70.00 64.0
2014-15 63.00 63.00 58.82
2015-16 115.00 115.00 105.05
2016-17 50.00 50.00 45.00
Note: There has been 100% utilisation excepting the NER component during 2013-17.

(c): Non utilisation of funds during the XII plan period is mainly due to non-availability of statutory prospecting permission for drilling in forest areas from Forest Authorities and adverse law & order conditions by local people at some places. Due to above reasons, exploration programme of a number of blocks could not be taken up or abandoned resulting in less work / utilization of fund.

(d) (e)&(f): Regular reviews are conducted to monitor the status of implementation of the schemes by the Ministry of Coal and pending issues are addressed with State and Central authorities. Further, Ministry of Coal has taken up the issue of simplified procedure for forest clearance for prospecting with MoEF&CC and the matter is under consideration of the Government.

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